

DEAR MEMBER: Please post this notice on the bulletin board of your favorite Veterans' Organization or Army Reserve Center.

# TARO LEAF

24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION CONVENTION BULLETIN

## FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REUNION OF ALL UNITS OF 24<sup>th</sup> DIVISION IN LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY 10 to 13 AUGUST 1961

SAT. 12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST PROCLAIMED  
24<sup>th</sup> DIVISION DAY IN KY.

### Proclamation

BY THE  
Governor  
OF THE

### Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

WHEREAS, the annual reunion of that famous combat unit, the 24th Infantry Division, will be held in Kentucky during 10 to 13 August 1961; and

WHEREAS, this illustrious Division, organized from elements of the original Hawaiian Division on Oahu, Hawaii, was the first to see combat in World War II, then first in Korea, and again the first ground unit to be sent to the Middle East, and having the distinction of never having served in the continental limits of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the 24th Infantry Division Association has chosen the Commonwealth of Kentucky, City of Louisville, for the site of its 14th Annual Reunion in 1961;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BERT COMBS, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim Saturday, August 12, 1961, as

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION DAY

and urge all citizens to join in tribute to this great fighting unit.



Done at the Capitol, in the City of Frankfort, this 12th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-one, and of the Commonwealth of Kentucky the one hundred and seventieth.

*Bert Combs*  
Bert Combs  
Governor

*H. M. Reed*  
Secretary of State

GOVERNOR COMBS will be our Guest Speaker at the annual Banquet on Saturday nite, August 12.. The committee has gone 'all out' to make this the best Convention yet. Send in your reservation now so they can make proper plans for you and your family.

For further information and extra copies of Taro Leaf, write to: Ed HENRY, 1st, National Bank Bldg., Attleboro, Mass., or to: Bob DUFF, Editor, 202 N. Robinson Street, Danville, Illinois.

## 3 BIG DAYS & NIGHTS PLUS SUNDAY BRUNCH

- \*\* FREE GIFTS
- \*\* FOR THE MEN and THE LADIES
- \*\* UNIT MEETINGS - - 24th COMBAT FILM
- \*\* TROPHY ROOM - See this Big Display
- \*\* 24th DIVISION COMBAT FILMS - Shown each day.
- \*\* TOURS, Including Ft. Knox, Sightseeing, & Industry
- \*\* BUFFET on Friday - Grand Door Prize,
- \*\* ENTERTAINMENT & MUSIC FRIDAY NIGHT - Our own MC
- \*\* SATURDAY TOUR - Fort Knox - Lunch at Mess Hall
- \*\* OUR OWN 24th DIVISION BAR AT ALL TIMES. The Price is Right!
- \*\* ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS SATURDAY P. M.
- \*\* SELECTION OF NEXT YEAR'S CONVENTION SIGHT !
- \*\* ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE LADIES...Baby Sitter for Kiddies
- \*\* COCKTAIL HOUR SATURDAY EVENING PRECEEDING BANQUET
- \*\* ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE & BANQUET. Gov. COMBS SPEAKS
- \*\* DANCE TO SWING BAND FROM FT. KNOX, 9:30 'till ?
- \*\* BROWN HOTEL SPECIAL ROOM RATES TO 24th DIV. ASSN. MEN  
Only \$6. single - - \$9. double (2 in a room)  
You can't beat these prices, and FREE Parking for your auto in the Brown Hotel Garage!
- \*\* SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION NOW !! to:  
BROWN HOTEL (for 24th Div reunion)  
4th & Broadway  
Louisville, Kentucky
- \*\* In addition to your room and meals, all it will cost you for attendance and participation is a \$5. registration fee to help to defray our expenses. See You.

ALL FORMER & PRESENT 24th DIVISION MEN & FAMILIES INVITED

DEAR MEMBER: Please post this notice on the Bulletin Board of your Veterans's Organization or U. S. Army Reserve Center. We know, from statistics, that there are hundreds of former 24th men who would be very happy to know of the Assn. and of our next Reunion, where they can re-live those "remember when" days, and share special memories that nothing can ever replace. THIS PAGE is for a BULLETIN BOARD...POST IT SOMEPLACE TODAY ! If you need extra copies of this or Taro Leaf, write to Editor.

Hawaii - Australia - New Guinea - Philippines - Japan - Korea - Lebanon - Germany







# Gimlets NEWS

(When forwarding news to the Editor, please give your Co., dates, and present home address.)

The 21st Infantry Regiment was organized under President Abe Lincoln's proclamation of 4 May 1861 which authorized an increase in the strength of the Regular Army. It has remained since that time one of the most noted elements of the U. S. Army. Organization was on 7 August which is celebrated as Organization Day each year.

The 21st saw initial action in the historic battle of Antietam in Sep. of 1862. After that struggle, the 21st fought in many campaigns including Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Cold Harbor, Petersburg-Richmond, and Cedar Mountain. At the conclusion of the war between the States, the 21st was kept as a Regular Army unit.

Prior to the Spanish-American War the 21st was sent to Cuba, where it fought in many campaigns, including the capture of San Juan Hill. At the turn of the century it was sent to the Philippines where it was engaged in the suppression of insurrections on Luzon, Leyte, and Mindanao. In 1912 the Regiment returned to the States for training and replacements.

At the outbreak of WW I, it had the important job of guard duty along the Mexican border. It continued until the end of hostilities.

In 1921, the Regiment returned to the Pacific, being stationed at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Hawaii. With the organization of the 24th Division on Hawaii, 1 October 1941, the 21st became a part of the Division.

All of us know the history of the 21st from 1941 to the present. The 21st has added many proud chapters to its history since 1941 - chapters of bravery and accomplishments. The Regiment is proud of the Presidential Citation won in the Leyte action in 1944. Its home (although reorganized into Battle Group) is still with the 24th Division.

Its present Insignia with the word, 'Duty' was approved by the Secretary of War in 1924, and regulations concerning same were issued in General Orders No. 1, Hq 21st Inf Regt. on 15 February 1924.

21st Infantry News follows:

## ALLYN

MILLER, ("A" Co, 21st) - still resides at 737 E. Livingston Avenue, in Columbus, Ohio. Allyn has always been exceptionally active during all the years of the Association's history, and a staunch supporter financially--he pays his dues several times each year! Seriously, Allyn, in addition to his dues (he is a Life Member), forwards contributions to Association Headquarters to help defray expenses of the TARO LEAF. Thanks Allyn, and we thank you for the last five you enclosed in your letter.

Allyn, recently recovered from a serious illness, and is now up and at it again. He is employed by the U. S. Post Office Dept. in Columbus. He is doubtful about attending the reunion this year as much as he would like to, but says that after just getting back to work, is not certain that he will be permitted to be absent for those 3 or 4 days in August this year. Allyn further states that he wants the Taro Leaf to extend his greetings and best wishes to all 24th Division men and their families, and promises that he will be on hand in 1962. Even though he may not attend in Louisville, Allyn is forwarding his registration fee to Ed Henry there! As he states, "Although I have a lifetime membership in the great 24th Division Association, I feel it my duty to help out with a little cash occasionally."

Allyn among other things, has poetry as a hobby. He forwarded this:

Hundred of Birds in the Summer Sky;  
Fleecy White Clouds Sailing by;  
A Little White Cross marks a Buddy's Grave,  
We Fought for, --- but couldn't Save.

God has not Promised Skies Always Blue,  
Nor Rose Strewn Paths all our Lives through;  
But God has Promised Grace for the Trials, Help from above,  
Unfailing Sympathy, --- Undying Love.

---Allyn Miller  
"A" Co, 21st Inf.  
24th Inf Div.

In November 1944, during the fighting for the Ormoc Corridor, Allyn's Company (A) furnished a patrol on which Allyn was assigned. He will not forget that day. The patrol, led by Captain Jack Matthews, of Macon, Ga. left the Company area at 0730 21 Nov 44.

Battalions of the 21st on their way north to relieve men of the 34th, were delayed due to heavy rains. After finally relieving the 34th's Co. "A", men of Co. "A" 21st-- came face to face with Japs in ambush. After meeting the Japs face to face, a frontal attack was the only way out. Eleven men of Co. A lost their lives in a wild exchange of shots. Thirteen were wounded. Pvt Thomas Kennedy of Harrison, W. C. was the first man to cross the stream. From the slippery hillside, men of A Company hurled hand grenades to clear the stream bed below. S/Sgt. Louis Hansel of Mt. Vernon, Kentucky, went after more grenades -- he got them.

Soon every man in the Company was committed to close-range fighting, including Messengers and Cooks. The Company Commander, Capt. Jack Matthews was unaware of 12 Japanese who suddenly charged his unit from the rear. Matthews wheeled when he heard the yells as they closed in. Two runners, a radio operator, and his orderly sprang up to help their Captain. They waded off the thrust -- the Japs vanished. BUT, a moment later, they broke out of the jungle like a pack of wolves. Some men staggered with bayonet wounds. An automatic rifle man who rushed to the aid of these men, was wounded. A Sergeant of A Company, Max Kieth of Mars Hill, W. C. saw the fracas. He grabbed the wounded gunner's grenades and automatic rifle, and all 12 attackers were soon dead.

Captain Matthews then led his men in a bayonet assault. It was 1800 hours before the last Jap defending the stream position was killed. We returned to our camp area at 1930 that evening. I remember this as if it were only yesterday.

Japanese Divisions engaged in the battle for Ormoc included the 1st, 16th, 26th, 30th and 102nd, as I recall. Other Jap units joined them later.

This patrol of "A" Company 21st Inf. was made up with the following:

Sgt. Floyd Freeman Meadville, Miss.	Charles Kahman (Co A Med Det) 2242 W. Schubert, Chicago, Ill.
Sgt. Ernest E. Payne Herman, Neb.	Bill Hershey (Med Det) 206 E. 6th, Joplin, Mo.
Robert C. Quinn 289 Pine St., S. Portland, Maine	Thomas A Lann - Sgt Con Del, Plantersville, Miss.
Oby Harris Halfway, Mo.	James Doss - Sgt.
William H. Cain Rt. #1, Soranton, S. C.	Donald Gaines Somewhere in S. C.
Ed Cuin, Jr. Rt. #2, Newmarket, Tenn.	Floyd Crochane - Sgt.
George Rudy Portland, Oregon	Robert Garrett --- Radio Operators George Rudy
	Robert C. Bush of Dayton, Ohio.

The Editor thanks Allyn for the News, the Names, the Poem, and the Cash. If only 10% of our membership forwarded as much, we could have a 20 page Taro Leaf 6 times a year. Think it over - it's up to you.

NA tional 2-5498

## Andrezak Auto Sales

### QUALITY USED CARS

### Bank Financing

Ed Andrezak, Pres.  
Chet Andrezak, Vice Pres.

2036 N. Cicero Avenue  
Chicago 39, Ill.

O'DONNELL, JIM - better known as "SPIKE" - "C" Co., 21st was a recent visitor to Danville. During his stay here, we journeyed over to Elwood Indiana to see President HANLIN. Spike asked to see C. G.'s private 'Chapel' (Bar & Recreation Room), and within 40 seconds, the libations were poured! The Hanlins have a wonderful 24th Division Rec room, where 24th men and their families from all over the States have been entertained.

SPIKE, our roving Ambassador, is one of our greatest boosters. In his travels throughout the Country, he talks 24th Division constantly. His Mother and family of sisters say that never does a day go by but what someone or some thing regarding the 24th is not mentioned.

Some of his friends have asked him - "Spike, why did we need all those other Divisions down in the Pacific?"

We caught Spike in one of his serious moments and asked him to tell us why he belongs to the Association and what it means to him. His editorial will be found on page 2 of this issue.

No matter where he might be in August, he will drop everything and be on hand at the reunion. He gets his mail at his permanent home address: 939 So. Kenilworth, Oak Park, Illinois.

GORSKI, Frank - 21st, 1st Bn Med - sends in his vote for HAWAII for 1965. No message was included however. Glad to have your vote, Frank. He indicates that he and his wife would go. Frank lives at 3041 So. St. Louis, Chicago, Illinois.

Letters concerning a proposed Reunion in Hawaii will be found elsewhere in this issue. Send in your opinion for publication.

ROSS, JOHN - "C" Co, - Hammond, Wisconsin, sends us a nice letter a week or so ago, stating that he knows of several men down in Kentucky who should know about the Assn. and the Reunion, and probably do not. John asked for Taro Leaves to send to them. He tells us that he is trying to round up 8 or 10 new men from down there and will try to have them present. GOOD WORK JOHN - We sent him the Taro which he forwarded on. John is with the Post Office in Hammond. He will see you all in Kentucky.

## MY BEST TO YOU

See You In Louisville

KEN ROSS SPRINGFIELD MASS.

MAYBAUM, Arthur, (TINY) - is another "C" Co. man. Tiny served with the 24th during the same period as SPIKE. Tiny has always been active in the Association, and was co-chairman of the 1950 Convention in Chicago. His home address is 10037 South Sangamon, Chicago, Illinois. Tiny is steamfitter and boiler-maker. He plans on attending the big Louisville deal along with the many others from his Chicago Chapter.

MENNEMEYER, FRANCIS W. - R.R. #1, Box 169, Bethalto, Illinois, is another C Co. man. -- these "C" men are really active! Francis has attended Conventions in Chicago, as recently as 1957, and we are hoping to see him down in the Bluegrass country.

GRATZ, HEINZ - 12121 Racine, Chicago, Ill. - What do you know -- Heinz is also from "C" Company --- and a member of the Chicago Chapter. He's expected to be on the Chicago 'train' to Louisville.

HARDI, RAY, - Shur-nuff - "C" Co, 21st, - lives at 9721 Dennis Dr., St. Louis, Mo. Ray has attended several reunions, and has always been one of our loyal members.

21st News continues:





## Gimlets NEWS CONTINUED.....

NEAVEILL, PHILLIP L. - "G" Co. 21st. Inf. - lives at 8836 Lacrosse, Skokie, Illinois. Phil has attended the Chicago reunions, and we may, and probably will, see him again in Louisville. It is only a very few hours drive from Chicago, now with all the free-ways.

ROCKENBACH, ROGER, - "G" Company - hasn't notified this Hq of any change of address for some time so we assume he is still living at Rt. #3, Ashland, Wisconsin.

SCHLATTER, ROBERT J. - "G" Co. 21st. - (boy, is this "G" Company active in the Assn) - Bob has been associated with the 24th Assn. ever since we can remember. He and his family attend each Reunion. We have not heard from him for a few months, but he is certain to be with us in Louisville.

In the photo at right you will see, Ed ST JOHN, (no record of Ed here, BOB GERRY, "K" Co 21st, and VP of New England Chapter, & with hand to ear is BOB SCHLATTER. The group in background has been attending a 24th movie - one of the many combat films, - and now at the private bar for refreshments.

This is a photo taken at a very recent convention, Phila Pa.

Note Ed Henry's famous Jap flag at left of center.



St John Bob Gerry Bob Schlatter

VOLAK, NORMAN E. \* "G" Co. lives at 8622 Phillips, Chicago, Ill. and attends reunions whenever possible. He'll be with the Chicago Chapter.

SCOTT, Virgil W. - 21st - We are not sure, but believe that Virgil was in either "G" or "K" Co of 21st. VIRGIL attends most of the reunions and he is also expected this year. Hope we're not mistaken, but think Mrs. Scott attended the Philadelphia conflag.

The "G" Company of this column will show you what personnel of just one Company of our Division can do to get out and increase membership. We used, this month, "G" Company, since it was brought to our attention by a couple of the men of that Co. Another example is "L" Co., 34th. At least 9 or 10 men of this Company will be together in Louisville.

LAVERNE BAKER - Freeport, Illinois has checked in again through Laverne. His address is Box 41, Freeport. Laverne is a long time enthusiastic member. He was with the 24th Division from June 1941 to July 1945 - (S/Sgt Co "K" - 21st). He does bookkeeping service and income tax work under the name and style of Baker's Bookkeeping Service. He also does a little golfing, fishing, and bowling on the side. His wife's name is Carol, and they have four children.

Gorski, Frank - formerly 21st Inf. - and his wife Irene live at 3041 So. St. Louis, Chicago, Illinois, and have 4 children. FRANK is now a supervisor in Pharmacy. Apparently he learned a little bit about it in the service. He was T/5 in the 1st. Bn. Med. from 1942 to 1945. (Frank may have preferred to have been mentioned under the Chicago News, .. if so, forgive the editor, Frank)

BOB GERRY - "K" Co, 21st Inf - lives at 51 Nixon Street, Dorchester, Mass. He has attended many of our reunions, and has been active in the forming of a NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER. Bob is at present, Vice President of that Chapter.

## Louisville

AUGUST

## BROWN HOTEL

SWAST, John J. - "D" Co, 21st - is another long time member of the Association. He resides at 2716 Terrace Road, S.E., Washington, D. C. John urges every former 24th Division man to attend reunions, as you will note in his letter found in this issue under "Hawaii".

DAVEPORT, GEORGE E. - "F" Co, 21st - George is another Gimlet who has long been a member. He attended the Reunion in Atlantic City, and we hope to see him in Louisville. He lives at East Drive, Laurelton, Bricktown, New Jersey.

## YOUR \$5

has helped make it possible for us to publish the TARO LEAF THIS PAST YEAR. Yours, with the help of our members who have paid for greetings and ads, barely took care of printing and postage. Next year, it may become necessary to send the Taro Leaf to just the paid up members, whereas now, we do keep sending it to those who are behind in their dues, in the hope that they will eventually send us their five bucks. Some have this past year, and we thank them. If you have not paid in the past two years, do not be surprised if you do not get Taro Leaves after the reunion -- we may have to cut down the number on our mailing list, to keep even with the bank. To be assured of your copy, send along \$5 before Convention, or pay your \$5 dues in Louisville. Please do this now, if possible, so that we may, at reunion time, budget for next year. Thank you.

TO OUR MEMBER ADVERTISERS: Please do not wait for the Editor to send you a statement this time --- consider your ad in this issue your statement and forward you money to Ed Henry. Also, if I failed to send you a statement in June - (we didn't get them all out) - send that in also, and it will save us extra work. Thanks a million.

## Make Your Plans Now!

PLAN YOUR VACATION AROUND THE REUNION - this year and next. Bring the family and come on down to the Bluegrass State. Then, next year, plan your vacation well in advance for AUGUST. If you have a few days after the reunion is over, there is much to see in Kentucky....  
PACK UP NOW,



## 19th INF. NEWS

JOE PEYTON  
1405 Belmore Ct.  
Lutherville, Md.

or JACK FINAN, Pres.  
758 E Whitaker Mill Rd.  
Raleigh, N. C.

WIEGMANN, EDWARD H. C. - 19th Inf. - with his wife Ruth, and children, David Carl, Joseph Ray, and Dianne Carol, reside at 1512 St. Mary's Avenue, Fort Wayne, Indiana. According to a note to the Secretary, Ed has entered some sort of Puzzle Contest. Good Luck in the contest Ed.

BONAGURA, Bob, of the 19th - 103 Locust St., Floral Park, N. Y. has been active in the Assn for a long time. He attended the Reunion last year and we should see him down in Kentucky soon.

Speaking of Floral Park, N. Y., Col. JIM PURCELL (Div Hq) lives there at 98 Iris Avenue.

## BERNARD R. FAGAN

G Co. 19th

LARSON, EMIL M. - "H" Co, spent 42 months in the Army in the SW Pacific - with the 24th. He served from Hawaii, thru Australia, Good Enough I, Dutch New Guinea, Leyte, Mindoro, Luzon, Lubang, & Mindanao. He received the Presidential Citation, Combat Infantry Badge, Purple Heart, Asiatic Pacific Ribbon with 3 battle stars, Filipino Ribbon, with 2 battle stars, Victory Ribbon, American Theater Ribbon and the Good Conduct Ribbon.

Although Emil is completely blind, he is very active, and attends many of our reunions. He will be with us in Louisville.

An article by EMIL will be found under "Letters to the Editor".

FINAN, JACK - President of the 19th Infantry Chapter, is still plugging away down there in Raleigh, N. C. Haven't heard from him for some time - maybe we haven't answered his last! He did send a long newsy letter to Bill DAVIDSON recently giving a lot of information about mutual friends - CHARLIE McBRIDE, COL. HANK ROYALL, COL. TRUMAN D. ECHOLS, who was on a tour, as G-3, of Schofield Barracks, and later Raleigh.

Jack reminds us to keep RICHARD LUM on the mailing list. We have. LUM lives at 209 Puuhue Place, Honolulu. Here's another note from Jack to us at Taro Leaf Hq. -- "It may be that I may get to Louisville on 9th or early the 10th of August. I mention this since Roscoe may need some assistance. Mary has a cousin in Louisville, so we will be doing a double visit". Jack.

Yes, Jack, the committee can always use a little help. All is under control, but there are always last minute details to take care of. So, "Sen" Roscoe, be looking for another Asst, Col Jack Finan, to be on hand.

HAVE YOU JOINED THE "CHICK"? If not write to Finan, address above, or to JOE PEYTON, 1405 Belmore Ct., Lutherville, Md. They will tell you how easy it is. Joe puts out a monthly paper for the Chicks. They have really been boosting the coming Reunion!... .... and why not? Join the CHICKS and get all their news.

MOCHAK, Mike, "D" Co, of 1143 Walnut St., Springdale, Pa. attended the last couple of conventions, and we hope to see him in August.

MONACO, Alfred, also of "D" Co, was in Atlantic City - Al lives at 214 W. 21st. Street, Chester Pa.

MULDOON, Bill, - "E" Co. - Bill can be listed with either the 19th or the NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER, since he is the President. We have not heard the outcome to date of the May meeting in Mass when the N.E. group had an annual meet.

Louisville

low-cost vacation

Hope we haven't left anything out. Time and space are both running short. Don't forget to write to the Editor to help to make the TARO LEAF Bigger and Better.....

**BILL MULDOON**  
643 Trapelo Rd - Waltham, Mass.

Aloha

DON'T FORGET ----- BRING YOUR HAWAIIAN SHIRT

BEHREL, GORDON H. - 4507 Washington Street, Downers Grove, Illinois, forwards another year's dues and is hoping to make it to the reunion in August. Gordon has been one of our mainstays for a long, long time.

HALABY, WILLIAM - Bill is another faithful member. He has moved and his new address is: 950 Genesee Park Blvd., Rochester 19, N. Y. He states that he is interested in a trip to Hawaii, but makes no further comments on the matter. Perhaps he will send in his contribution to our Hawaii Column for next issue.



# ALOHA, AIKANE!

(GREETINGS, FRIEND)



**ACT  
NOW**

If you ideas on an Hawaiian Reunion to be considered, or if you want to help to decide which year it should be held, Act now, and let your views be known at this year's annual meeting. If it is impossible for you to attend, forward your proxy to the editor and it will be read at the meeting.

Special rates will be arranged for....

# HAWAII

Wilson, James Y. ("C" Co., 19th) - 17 W. DeSoto Street, Lake City, Florida sends us his vote for an Hawaiian holiday. Jim is conncted with the Wilson Insurance in Florida. Here's what he says:

Dear Bob:

I have kept your card about the reunion in Hawaii on my desk for 2 months now trying to decide what I would say.

I would certainly love to go back there for a reunion, and will try to do so when one is held there. I think you are going to have to get commitments far in advance, and possibly even start some type of pay in advance commitment in order to insure the crowd that you will need. One of the travel agencies might be able to help out in developing a plan that would enable the fellows to pay part of the expense over a year or 12 months, in advance, such as \$15.00 per month for 12 months, with the balance being financed by the travel agency under some of the credit plans they now use.

I don't see any reason for putting it off until later, since the future is so indefinite that in all probability 1962 would have as many going back as later years, and the longer we wait the older and in worse shape some of us are going to be to enjoy it.

My wife and I are planning to attend the reunion this year in Louisville, and before then I am going to get in touch with some of the other fellows down here, so we can all be planning a good group from Florida. You probably did not know it, but you were just 20 miles from my home here when you visited with Marty Griner over in Lake Butler, and incidentally, I have been planning to look him up now for several months since reading about him in the Taro Leaf.

If you ever run across the address of Joy K. Vallery, please send it to me.

Looking through some old stuff recently I found the enclosed snapshot that was made of Lts. Russell, Pfaff, and myself when I was a Captain, Commanding the Cannon Company, 19th. Infantry. The fighting was over then, and our Company was camped on the road between Hollandia Airfield and Tannamerah Bay. The thatched roof shack in the background was built for me by the New Guinea natives. Please use this picture if you can, but please also return it to me because it is one of the few that I have of those times.

Sincerely yours,  
James Y. Wilson



photo of J.Y.Wilson

Note: Anyone having the current address of Joy K. Vallery, who is mentioned above, send it to Jim and to 24th Division Assn. Headquarters.

Note: Anyone having the address of Joy K. Vallery, mentioned above, is asked to please send it to Jim and also to the Secretary of the Assn.

von ohr, (AT, 19th) votes for 1965 and writes as follows:

Just a short note to let you know that the von Mohr's are O. K. and hope you all are the same.

First, I want to tell you that we have not yet bee luck enough to have been blessed with a baby. Maybe next year we will. After Now, about the planned trip to Hawaii. I feel pretty much the way General Newman feels. For many of us the 'cough up' that much dough in such a short time can be a little rough. I don't quite follow what he meant by the statement that "the 24th will never have another birthday". Can you enlighten me?

See you in Louisville, in August.

Best regards,

Jerry von Mohr  
3846 Villanova Dr.  
Dayton, Ohio

Note Jerry: It was the Editor's mistake in reproducing Gen. Newman's letter. It should have read, "the 24th Division will never have another 24th birthday."

A few more we have had a ballot from but with no comment are:

A. B. KOENIG, (Div QM)	.....2 or more 1962 or 65
7931 Green Lane	
Wyncote, Pa	
S. SHERYLL (34th)	..... 2 1965
6318 Anderson	
Phila. Pa.	

(Can't fin Mr. Sheryll on our list, but he must have received the Taro Leaf from someone. Please let us hear, Mr. Sheryll).

FRANK GORSKI (1st Bn Med 21) 2 or more 1965

Also the following from one of our newer members, now very active: KYRD WEHLE is ready to go!.....

Re: Honolulu in 1962

Dear Bob:

The idea of reliving experiences in Hawaii once more with the comrades-in-arms who shared these unforgettable months has such appeal for the Wehles, that Jane and I are already saving for the trip in '62. Like most wives who met their husbands later, she has heard so much about Schofield, Halesiwa, Waielua, Kahuku and the Pupukea Trail that she feels she really must see for herself if it is really as beautiful as she has been led to believe.

Deal us in for '62. If I can swing it, we'll even bring our nine year old son, Kent, who wants to try the spear fishing in Kahana Bay, which he's always heard is even better than whatever fishy reef we happen to be working.

Why wait forever? A year's notice ought to give people enough time to hoard their nickels. See you in Louisville.

Yours very truly,

Fred Wehle, Jr.  
3rd. Eng'r. Bn.  
268 Yarmouth  
Birmingham, Michigan

THIS IS MY OWN OPINION, and not that of any officer of the Association:

I firmly believe that a well-planned Reunion for 1965 in Hawaii is the best for the majority of the members. First, it is hard for those who do not have or can't spare the extra money, to save it, especially if they have families. And secondly, it will give ample time to plan a real reunion, which it will have to be - to go that far for. It will give us time to contact not only the civilian business we will deal with, but will give time to organize thru the Military, a grand and glorious welcome for the Taro Leaf boys coming back for a visit. I go along with a 24th Reunion on the 24th birthday of the 24th Division, 1965.

Robert J. Duff, Editor  
(Div Hq - G-4 Sec)

**Bring Your  
TROPHY(S)  
to the  
CONVENTION  
Trophy Room will be Guarded**

## new friends

BERMAN, Seymour, and ROBERT V. HIGGINBOTTOM are both new members. We welcome them, and hope that they will enjoy the comradeship and friendships the Association has to offer. We trust that both of these former Taro Leaf wearers will take an active part in the affairs and activities of the Association, and of their respective Chapters. We trust that they will be in Louisville to meet the 'gang'. BERMAN, formerly with the 21st. A close-up of him will be found under column entitled 'GIMLETS' NEWS. Even though the 21st does not have a Chapter, we included several Gimlets in such a column. Berman may well join the NEW ENGLAND Chapter however. News concerning - all we have now - our newest bachelor, BOB HIGGINBOTTOM, will be found at the head of the column, '19th Infantry News'.

WARD, JOHN E. - Div Hq - 703 Sixth Avenue, Cleveland, Mississippi recently joined the Association as a Life Member. An account tell of John, his family, and affairs will be found under "CHICAGO NEWS".

MOBRYDE, CHARLES M. of 633 Spring Lane, Sanford, North Carolina has joined the Association. We are always pleased to welcome new members. As soon as we receive his questionnaire in the mail, we'll have more to publish regarding his Unit, his family, etc.

FARRAR, ALBERT A. - "I" Co, 34th ... one of our newest members was recruited by MILTON SKELLY of 713 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, New York. Milton gave us the following information about AL A. FARRAR: Al was with the 34th ("I" Co) from July to October 1950 as a Corp. He presently resides at 355 W. 85th Street, New York, N. Y. His present business: USTD IRS DDO BKLYN, 250 Livingston St. Bklyn 1. Perhaps we'll have more info regarding his family and whether he intends to see us in Louisville, later. By the way, the above business really means US Internal Revenue Service. MILT SKELLY also is with the Service and says that in the course of his duties has seen DANIEL D. BREIER, who served in the 19th Inf in the Philippines and for a short time, in Okayama, Japan. We are putting on the mailing list for next time also, and hope Milt will forward a completed membership application soon. Thanks Milton.

BRIDWELL, EARL (Red) - "H" Co, 19th. - We somehow got fouled up and misplaced Earl's card before it was filed, and didn't mention last issue that he had joined up with 'the outfit' Sorry Red. 'Red' is a member of the 19th Assn, and was with the 19th on duty from May 1938 to April 1942. His home is at 89 N. 9th Street, Beech Grove, Indiana. We'll expect to see Earl (Red) at Louisville.

KLUMP, JOHN E. - another Indiana man - joined sometime back also. We do not have too much information but hope to be hearing from John soon regarding his old unit, his family, occupation, hobbies, etc, in order that his old friends can become a little better acquainted with him between reunions. Send us the dope John.

KAWA, FRANK - 66 East Greenwich Avenue, West Warwick, R. I. attended the recent meeting of the New England Chapter, at which time he signed on the dotted line as another new member in good standing. As soon as the Secretary sends us his history it can be printed.

THE FOLLOWING MEN, who are not members, have written to get information regarding the coming reunion. They have heard about it and are very much interested in attending:

CLAY CASTLE, R. R. #3, Columbus, Kansas  
ELLSWORTH MILLS, R. R. #2, Perry, Iowa  
THOMAS SHERREY, 72 Wilson St. Gouverneur, N. Y.

COMPTON, ERNEST, of 35801 Mound Road, Warren, Michigan, a member in the early days of the Association has re-joined and we are certainly happy to have him back in the fold. Ernest asks about the whereabouts of CLARENCE STANLEY, formerly of "I" Co, 34th. We have no knowledge of him. Anyone who knows Mr. Stanley's address, is asked to please forward same to the Secretary.

McKENNEY, Frank - could not make it to the New England Chapter Meet in May due to the hours his work consumes. Perhaps he'll take a little time off in August.

CUTALA, DOMINICK J. - 2 Chapman Ave., Neptune, N. J. writes to say he is interested in joining the Division Association. We have sent him Taro Leaves and application form.

BILL SANDERSON, "F" Co, 19th, lives at 57 Peck Street, Attleboro, Mass., and is always on hand at conventions. Ever wonder where the lovely jewelry comes from that we have presented as gifts? Bill manufactures it. He has a jewelry factory in Attleboro.

KEEP SKILING - It makes people wonder what you've been up to!

W. T. (BILL) LLEWELLYN - 34th - 550 Pleasant View, Wauwatosa 13, Wis. writes "my wife and I would certainly be interested in the 'Gardian' trip either in 1962 or 1963. The idea of having an annual reunion out there is a good one, and I personally would prefer the month of August, same as we now have. We have been wanting to make that trip for some time, but the prices have been steep. Looks like this deal would be too good to turn down. Yours, Bill Llewellyn.

PETERS, W. J. - Serv Co, 19th - WROTE for extra Taro Leaves, especially a recent issue showing an old picture of C Co, 19th. "We sent him copies of several issues. Peters is recruiting new men for the Association and uses these to send to them. Walter is with Meyer Lumber and Hardware Co, of Summerfield, Kansas. His home is in Summerfield, but he gets his mail thru the Lumber Company. He was with us last convention and hopes to be in Louisville.

And the young lady graduating from College said, "Four long years of hard work, and who did I get to show for it?"

KEN ROSS & ED HENRY recently returned from their annual Caribbean trip.

PAGAN, BERNARD R. 20-66 27th Street Astoria, L. I., N. Y. Bernie heard of the Assn. last year only one day prior to the reunion, when he saw the news of it in the paper and a sign up on the Board Walk telling of the Victory Division. He has been a staunch supporter since - with a special support each issue with his (paid for) greeting in the Taro Leaf. Thanks Bernie. Bernie and Cele will see us in Louisville.

## New England NEWS

We haven't heard much new of late from the boys in the New England area. The New England Chapter was formed a little over a year ago, and they have had a few get-togethers since that time. It is a little hard to get them all together too often with men scattered all over the Eastern States.

The first President, elected last year was BILL MULDOON, with BOB GERRY as Vice President. Ed Henry, with all the records at his finger tips, is Secretary-Treasurer of the Chapter.

## Best Wishes

to all 24th DIVISION VETERANS

especially to all GIMLETS

Bill Verbeck

They held their annual meeting recently at Motel 128, to outcome of which we have not heard. It was well advertised, and assumed that they had a big turn-out. Combat films, as well as movies taken at our reunions, and movies of the Chicago Chapter affairs were to be shown. As soon as a report reaches us on the meeting and as soon as we have the names of the new officers, they will be published.

SAM GILNER (13th FA)  
78 Palisade Avenue  
Bogota, New Jersey

One thing is certain -- BILL VERBECK'S Beer Party went off with a bang! Nothing could prevent this.... on 4th of July.

Each year, Bill throws a party for all men of the New England area - in fact, any member of the Association is invited. He has it on the lawn of his home at Fort Devens, Mass. Last year approximately 30 members and their families enjoyed the festivities. Bill and Peggy went all out to see that everyone had a grand time.

As this Taro Leaf goes to press, the 1961 party is about to begin. A big crowd was expected - KEN ROSS said he was going to drop everything and attend. If we receive any news on this annual picnic, and can squeeze it in to the printers by the 6th or 7th we will do so, if not we'll tell you all about it in an issue in September.

See You in KY  
**BOB EAST**  
3rd. ENG.

Maj. Gen. BILL VERBECK is C. G. of XIII Corps and of Ft. Devens.

To New England Boys - Send in the news and we'll print it.....

**WILLIAM V. DAVIDSON**  
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## SICK CALL....

DAVIDSON, WILLIAM V. - Vice President Bill has been laid up for a spell, having been in the hospital for a delicate operation. We understand that he is getting on well now, however, and should be up and around in the near future. Anyone caring to drop a line to Bill, Lorna, or Barbara will find their address on page 2 of this and each issue. Bill is in the Fruit and Vegetable brokerage business, in Swedesboro, and also connected with a Stock Brokerage firm in Phila. Pa.

STEVENSON, MRS GERALD - Wolf and Dundee Rds., Wheeling, Illinois was hit by a truck and confined to her bed for a time. Last report from Trina was that she is getting along fine.





## 34th Dragons

When writing to Editor, please include your former unit, with dates of service; also tell us about your present status, family.

We have heard from NORRIS L. TIBBETTS, Jr., who is a teacher at the University of Wisconsin. (5716 Arbor Vitae Place, Madison 5, Wisconsin) Tibbetts was a 1st Lt., Co "C", 34th in 1944-46. He was thoughtful enough to send us a list of names and addresses of men who served with Charlie Company which we will try to reproduce for the benefit of you members. Every now and again we run across a man who says he would have joined up long ago had he known of the Association. The only way we can interest these men is to get their names and addresses, and we are very grateful to Tibbetts for having this in mind.

Norris also sent out a little letter during the Christmas holidays apparently went to "C" Company "graduates". Here it is with his list:

*Compliments of*

**Maj. Gen. Aubrey S. Newman Ret**

**34th INF.**

**DIV. HQ.**

We've heard again from Ernest COMPTON - one of our old members - who lives at 35801 Mound Road, Warren, Michigan. Compton was a Sgt. in Co "I", 34th from July 1940 to 1945. Ernie and his wife Georgia have 3 children, Alvina 12 years, Erma 9 years, and little Georgia 21 months of age. These Taro Leafers sure have some unusual hobbies. Ernest's is 'bees'. By the way, he wants to know the whereabouts of Clarence Stanley, Co I, 34th. Anyone know?

CAIN, PAUL J. - Co. "I", 34th Inf. from 1943 until 1945 - with Morgan Sash and Door Company, Decatur, Illinois. His home address is PO Box 392, Jacksonville, Illinois. Paul promises to see us in Louisville, Kentucky this summer.

PURSIFULL, ROSS - 34th - and his wife live at 22424 Outer Drive, Dearborn, Michigan. Ross recently visited an evening with Ed Henry over in Attleboro. Before he departed, he gave Ed the price of a greeting to help out with the Taro Leaf expenses. Thanks Ross. See you in that town in Kentucky---the the town down there right behind Stamping Ground! Louisville.

**Cheers**



Looks like this year's Reunion will be the greatest yet

I'll see you in Louisville -- 10 thru 13 August

ROSS W. PURSIFULL  
(34th Inf Regt)



SELTSM, ALBERT - "D" Co, 34th - farms near Danville, Kentucky. He and his wife drive over to Louisville occasionally, when meetings are called for the convention committee, on which Al is working. He will be in charge of all tours, except the one to Fort Knox. Al sent us a greeting to inset in the Taro, but there wasn't room last time. It is in this issue.

**ALBERT SELTSM - Danville, Ky., SAYS:**  
"D" Co., 34th.

**"Take my word for it..."**

You shouldn't miss this HOLIDAY in the Beautiful State of Kentucky, land of beautiful women, fast horses, and refreshing mint juleps. Y'all come on down now, and let us show you a good time. Hear? It's gonna be the greatest!!

C. G. has about 9 of his "L" Company men lined up for this year's convention. Prior to convention, the Hanlins will have as house guests, ED HENRY, his sister RITA, and niece BETSY; also KEN ROSS. They are coming over to Elwood about a week prior to convention. Also planning to stop by on the way to Louisville are Spike O'Donnell, Chet Andrezak, and perhaps a few more from Chicago including the CIANCIS. Ann & Bob Duff will go over a day or two prior to the 10th and will join the group at C. G.'s lake Cottage in northern Indiana. While at the lake Betsy and maybe Rita will be skiing. Ed and Ken will no doubt be out on a lawn chair or in a hammock enjoying a well deserved rest.

Get your reservation card in - We want to be sure to have enough 24TH DIVISION CIGARETTE LIGHTERS FOR EVERYONE.  
We don't want to run out before you get yours - Mail Your Card NOW.

**VIC BACKER** (34th)

**PAUL WING STUDIOS, INC.**  
**417 EAST 61st STREET**  
**NEW YORK 21, N. Y.**

*VACATION WITH THE 24th IN LOUISVILLE*

**ELWOOD PLUMBING & HEATING CO., INC.**  
**HANLIN BROS.**

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**1414 MAIN STREET**

**PHONE FE. 2-7389**

**ELWOOD, INDIANA**

**C. C. Hanlin**

**R. E. Hanlin**

I've been getting Christmas cards off and on from various Company C graduates, ever since the Good Old Days. Even this rather feeble connection is something I've looked forward to, particularly when time was taken to include a note ("We've added our tenth child", or some such), or a photograph of the assembled family.

Actually, in terms of the present, we have very little in common - we have families, jobs, and all that, but not much in the way of shared experience. Were some of us to meet from scratch, we might well hate each other's guts.

It is the past, of course, which provides the bond. I am not one to dwell in the past, but there are, unfortunately, few things in life which bring out what a man is better than grazing machine gun fire and other such delightful things. We may have little in common today. You may be a successful bank president, and I an unsuccessful bank robber. But whatever you are, we knew each other when we had no pretensions and no future. We were exactly what we were, with the veneer all gone. To accomplish this - to be yourself - is perhaps the most difficult job which faces people today.

So - in case your interested in knowing what's become of people, or want to make the circuit of the country living off your pals, I am sending along this list of former associates. I got these addresses from Ziegler in 1946. Now I don't even know where he is. The first group should be pretty accurate, having been kept up-to-date. The second group is probably pretty inaccurate. If you have information which might change what is noted here, or if you think this exchange is worth doing now and then, drop me a line.

Norris Tibbetts

**Save on price...then save twice**

You will save twice this year at the Brown Hotel, and the 24th Division Reunion. First, your room rate will be only \$6 single or \$9 for a double room. Most all the rooms have TV. Then you'll save again, because you may park FREE in the Hotel's Garage. No charge for overnight parking.

You will save over other conventions because the committee has arranged a wonderful meal for the banquet - and the buffet (menu found in this issue), and has been able to hold the price down to a reasonable rate. \$5.50 for banquet with all the trimmings--and NO TIPPING for you.

You will save at the bar whether soft drinks or hard likker, since the Association will have its own bar set-up and can control the prices. All drinks will be at neighborhood prices, not cabaret rates.

**There's fun for Everyone...**

We have rooms for Unit meetings... Combat Film, Trophy Room... Awards... Free Door Prizes at the Buffet on Friday... Gifts at the Registration Desk for the ladies, and the men... A special gift for the first 200 arriving... engraved with the Taro Leaf... A song fest with surprise MC... Special Chorus from Ft. Knox... Music on Friday... Dance Band on Saturday... Tours... All Star Game Saturday... Cocktail Hour. Baby Sitter service arranged by the Hotel upon 24 hour notice... All the above is awaiting you in Louisville... all the entertainment & activities included in the price of your meals and your Annual \$5.00.





# Chicago NEWS

When the last issue of the TARO LEAF was printed the Editor did not have the complete list of new Officers of the Chicago Chapter, and now apologizes for having omitted at that time, the name of the new Editor of the Chicago Chapter paper. He is none other than

**JOHN GIUSTINO - 4203 W. 59th - Chicago 29, Ill.**

Sorry John, but didn't have your name at that time. You're doing a fine job with the Chicago paper. John is a long time active member of the Association, and has been very active in the Chicago Chapter.

The Chicago boys have been having their monthly meetings at McDuff's Lounge, 4030 W. Fullerton Avenue. After the meeting Pizza is served, movies are shown, also combat films of the Division in action. A good time is always had by all.

LEHIGH 7-9719

## STEVE'S RESTAURANT

PRIVATE CATERING

*Home of Broasted Chicken*

GERALD R. STEVENSON

(Div. Hq.)

WOLF & DUNDEE RDS.  
WHEELING, ILLINOIS

BOB ANDRE, President of Chicago Chapter called the June meeting on 23rd to make final arrangements for the Picnic and plans for the group to attend the Louisville reunion. The Chapter is making every effort to have its largest crowd so far attending this 1961 reunion. For information or a ride to Louisville, get in touch with either Bob Andre, 2134 N. Clifton, Chicago, or Pat Ciangi, 4746 W. Monroe, or any Chicago member you might know. If you don't have transportation, something will be arranged for you.

CHET ANDREZAK, SPIKE, and a few others called C. G. by phone the other day to let him know that they had all their arrangements made to go to Louisville. They will be stopping by either Elwood or Danville enroute.

67 WEST DIVISION STREET • CHICAGO 10 • ILLINOIS •



THOMAS H. COMPERE  
PRESIDENT

WALTER W. HOWITT, (Div Hq SSO), now a Lt. Col in Reserves, passed thru Chicago a few days ago enroute to Ft. Leavenworth, for TD. Called TOM COMPERE..... Walt hopes to make the Reunion this time. His address: 78 N. Grove St., East Aurora, N. Y. Nice to hear from Walt after so many years.

Chorus from Fort Knox on Saturday nite. Dance Band for your pleasure. Surprise Master of Ceremonies.

I AM \_\_\_\_\_ AM NOT \_\_\_\_\_ interested in an HAWAIIAN REUNION.

If held, I am in favor of having it in 1962 \_\_\_\_\_, 1963 \_\_\_\_\_,  
1964 \_\_\_\_\_, 1965 \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_, City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Number in my family who would attend reunion \_\_\_\_\_

(Please mail this form to the Editor of Taro Leaf)

HUMBOLDT 6-7161

WHOLESALE OPTICIANS

CHICAGO 47, ILLINOIS

*Ligman Optical Company*

RICHARD T. LIGMAN

Chicago News continues:

## More Chicago News:

A former member of the 24th (Div Hq) JOHN E. WARD, was in Chicago recently, with his wife, attending a pharmaceutical convention, and called on TOM COMPERE. From Tom, John learned of the 24th Division Association and its activities, and before leaving Chicago became not only a member, but gave Tom a check for \$100 to become a Life Member. Tom, who is chairman of the Lifetime Membership Committee is certainly on the job at all times.

John Ward, formerly with Chemical Warfare Serv with Div Hq, now owns the Medical Arts Pharmacy in Cleveland, Mississippi, and married a real southern belle. They have a daughter 14 and a son 11.

John is a good one to spin yarns, and tells of the time he and Lt. Col. JOHN CLARK (CWS-Div Hq) pushed and pulled a 4.2 mortar through 2 full feet of mud (that's the way he remembers it now) all the way from Tanahmerah Bay to the Hollandia air strips.

John asked about the various men of the Division. He is very much interested in the old outfit, and we expect to see him along with his family down in Kentucky. His mailing address is 703 Sixth Avenue, Cleveland, Miss.

Shoot the Editor if he forgets this: John's lovely wife's name is Catherine. Martha Jane is 14, and John E. Jr. is 11. His hobby is fishing.

SPECIAL! Official 24th DIVISION Fountain Pens,  
Reg. \$2.95 - NOW \$2.00 Limited time.  
Dr. Richard T. Ligman, Chicago, Ill.

STRADA, Angelo - "C" Co, 21st - lives at 5012 S. Laverne, Chicago. Angelo never misses a Chicago meeting or party, and is usually on the spot to help in planning and in the carrying out of these affairs. He seldom misses a convention. He'll be on hand again this year, even the Churchill Downs is closed at the time, except for sight-seeing.

SHAY, JOHN R. - Hq Co, 21st, along with GERALD (Steve) STEVENSON, attends every convention, no matter where it is held. John R - known to many by "BOB" operates a Super Service Station on the highway just at the edge of city limits of Wheeling, Illinois. His home address is: 455 Bernice Court, Wheeling. Both he and the Stevensons will be present at the Chicago Picnic and at the August reunion.

KRESKY, RAY, 24th Recon - another active Chicago man, moved not too long ago and some of you may not have his address. It is: 2519 W. Jerome Avenue, Chicago 45, Illinois. Ray is connected with a Trucking Co.

GOINY, Dick, who is First Vice-President of Chicago Chapter is always on hand where activities are concerned. He is usually the man who runs the projector when we show our combat films at convention. Dick was with "E" Co, 21st.

LIGMAN, RICHARD T. - 3rd Engr. - Dr. Ligman is Past President of the Chicago Chapter and a long time active member of the Association. He has always been a loyal advertiser and booster of the Taro Leaf. Doc has contributed with his greeting or ad for the better part of four years! Whenever the Chicago Chapter is in need of help in the way of preparing for a meeting, party, or picnic, Doc and his wonderful wife, BRENICE are always there. They provide music for most of the affairs, and have their recording outfit there for the use of the Chapter. His hobbies include hunting and fishing.

We might mention that other long-time advertisers and boosters of TARO LEAF from the Chicago Chapter include TOM COMPERE, CHET ANDREZAK, and GERALD STEVENSON. They have been with us from the start too. They have all been a great help in defraying expenses of the Taro Leaf, and our readers should be grateful to them and the other members from across the Nation whose ads or greetings you will find in this issue as well as past issues.

SPECIAL - 24th Division Fountain Pens - specially made by the Scheffer Pen Company are on SALE by the Chicago Chapter. This regular \$2.95 value can be purchased from now until Convention time for only \$2.00. These are made with the Taro Leaf built in in full color - only \$2. Send your money to: Dr. Richard T. Ligman, 5230 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago, Ill. DO IT NOW - the Price may go back up to \$2.95 by Convention time.

REMEMBER THE PICNIC \* \* \* Also we'll SEE YOU IN LOUISVILLE, KY.

**ALOHA**

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP....

Did you ever figure it out? A LIFE MEMBERSHIP is \$100, but, actually, it costs you only \$75. Here is how it works, the way I see it:

So you're paying \$5 per year as an active member; Well, in five years you will have paid \$25. SO, if you add \$15 per year to the \$5 to apply on a Life Membership, you are paying only an extra \$75 in over the five year period.....and you are paid for life.

You may have a Life Membership in the Association for \$20 per year, \$25 per year or you may pay cash. We now have 36 Life members. Get yours started this Aug. in Louisville. TOM COMPERE, 67 W. Division, Chicago, 10, Illinois, is Life Membership Chairman. You may contact him now. Dues are due next month (August).

*You are invited to Join*



## ON THE JOB

Here are the names of just a few... a nucleus... to be on hand to greet you when you arrive at the Brown Hotel next August 10 or 11th. It matters not which unit you served with--- there will be one of your former buddies there to meet you with an Aloha, Pehoa oe Kamaaina, (or 'Malihini'), and your nani wahine will be made to feel at home also.

So, if you have never attended a reunion, make Louisville your first, and then we know it will not be your last -- only a beginning. Here is a list of 'Greeters on the job' that you'll see when you arrive:



LESLIE OLDS--19th  
BOB BONAGURA--19th  
RALPH CARTER--19th  
ROLAND CLOUD--19th



THOMAS BURNS (21st)  
JOHN B. FARRELL--21st  
JOHN J. SWAST--21st  
GEN. BILL VERBECK--21st



JOHN MEACHER  
6th Tank



JOE MASHETT  
5th Tank



DON WILLIAMS  
34th



HERB TISCHLER--24th  
SAM REIFLER--24th  
VIC BACKER--24th



W. J. D'ELIA, Div Arty Hq.  
ROBT. E. FRIES, Hq Btry.



RICHARD D. EMERSON--13th  
SAM GILMER--13th FA



ART HORNBECK--52nd FA  
ALVIN GAUPP--52nd FA



HERBERT SLADEN--63rd FA  
BOB ANDRE--63rd & Ord.



JOHN PROCTOR--Div Arty.



CHAS. SNYDER--24th Sig



RICHARD DeBOWER  
JAMES N. PURCELL--Div Hq

## It's the little things that make the big difference

Last issue Major General A. S. (Red) Newman told you via his letter what his association with men of the 24th Division Association means to him.

This month, we asked Spike O'Donnell, of Chicago, the same question. Spike, who has always been our roving ambassador, has been convention chairman and worked on many conventions. Also, he was the fourth President of the Association (1950-51). Spike, when first approached, said it would be hard to put into words, all his deep feelings for the Division and the men in it, but he did come up with the following which pretty well expresses the feelings of a lot of us.

I have been asked by our editor to write a brief note on the subject, "What the 24th Infantry Division Association Means to Me".

Two days of my life are still fresh in my memory -- the day that I was assigned to the 24th Division, and the day I departed. But, also; those months and years in between have left a script that time shall never erase. There is something I shall always be justly proud of--- those years of service in the 24th Infantry Division.

Now, to me, the 24th Division Association has become a plastic shield, protecting and assuring a continual warm personal contact with my fellow men who wear the Taro Leaf.

As a member of various clubs and organizations, and one who travels constantly, I never hesitate to praise the 24th Division and the 24th Division Association as the finest of all organizations. To me, the Association is as democratic and wonderful as is the 24th Division itself. Nothing can replace it; it is second to none.

James M. 'SPIKE' O'Donnell

For instance, during my days in Hollandia, I was 'busted' from Sergeant to Pfc... and the following week, was promoted up to Staff Sergeant. When the Command of a Division allows a recovery of that sort, you know the Division Association must be tops also.

I sincerely urge all former 24th men to sit down and consider becoming a member of the Association, and as a first for now, to attend our fourteenth annual reunion next August 10th in Louisville. You'll see what I mean -- your ties with former buddies are as close as they were during combat. You will again enjoy their comradeship. Come on down to Louisville and try us!

Yours,

*Spike*  
James M. (Spike) O'Donnell  
'C' Co., 21st.

## Excerpt from Pamphlet entitled "What is the Price For Freedom".

### WHAT IS THE PRICE OF FREEDOM?

As a student of history, I have learned, what the price of freedom is. I have, from personal experience, also, come to know, what the price for freedom is. In World War II my younger brother paid the supreme sacrifice, not with silver or gold, but with his precious life. "Greater love hath no man than this that he lay down his life for his friends." In World War II, I did not have to lay down my life--I was ready to lay down my life--I did give up my eyes for my friends, the American people.

General Robert E. Keiser, in his book, "Our Jungle Road to Tokyo," writes:

1. Towards the beginning of his book, "Fighting against the Japanese was a good deal like Indian fighting of American pioneer past. It was a sly and sneaky kind of combat. It never resembled the massive and thunderous operations in Europe, where tank battalions were pitted against tank battalions and armies the size of city populations were ponderously moved and maneuvered.

The Pacific was a different war. In New Guinea, when the rains came, wounded men might drown before the litterbearers found them--many did. No war is a good war, and death ignores geography, but out there--I was convinced, as were my soldiers, that death was pleasant in a temperate zone."

### THANKFULNESS

I am thankful, to God, for the spiritual and material blessings which He has given to me. I am grateful to God for the spiritual life which He has kindled within my heart. I am also grateful to God for the physical life which He has given to me.

For I will remember the day on a hot and dusty road in Mindanao--HE gave me strength, to rise from the dust with a purpose in my heart. That June 1, 1945, I was hit by a Japanese landmine. The force of the explosion lifted me off the ground and hurled me backwards through the air, to the opposite side of the road. When I began to regain consciousness, the first thought that came to me was-- breathe hard. Emil, you are not going to die. God has a purpose for you.

After my discharge from the army on May 26, 1946, I enrolled in January 1947 at Augustana College, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. I graduated from Augustana College in June 1950 with a B.A. degree.

Upon graduating from Augustana College, I applied for admission to Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. I was accepted, and began my theological studies in the fall of 1950.

Following my graduation, from Luther Theological Seminary, in 1951, I have received two Letters of Call and have been considered for a third, from parishes within the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

One of those Letters of Call came from a parish in South Dakota. After prayerful considerations, I accepted the call extended to me by this parish, to become the assistant pastor.

I then, with the Pastor and the Call Committee, sent letters to Dr. F. A. Schlotz, President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, requesting ordination. A letter from Dr. Schlotz arrived. My request for ordination was turned down--I was denied ordination on the grounds, "that any physically handicapped persons seeking ordination at Luther Theological Seminary, may not do so, with any anticipation of seeking ordination."

Why does the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the faculty of Luther Theological Seminary hold such a negative view towards the physically handicapped? And why does the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the faculty of Luther Theological Seminary, deny me ordination when--

1. there are parishes within the E. L. C. that have extended Letters of Call to me;
2. there are pastors in the field who want me;
3. there are eighty-one vacant parishes in the E. L. C.;
4. there are institutions seeking clergymen;
5. there are opportunities in the Chaplain Service!

The Evangelical Lutheran Church encourages men to enter the ministry. But, it is one thing to encourage men to make the ministry their life calling; it is another thing to deny them the privilege to enter upon that calling, after they have received the inner call to the ministry and a specified call from a congregation.

I am thankful, that the Lord, is no respecter of persons. I am also thankful that the Holy Spirit is no respecter of persons. For, the same Holy Spirit that calls a person through the Gospel to believe in Jesus Christ as his Saviour and Lord can also call that person to serve his Lord in the ministry, whatever his station or lot in this life might be.

-- By EMIL M. LARSON

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We are always happy and willing to publish letters or other articles sent to us from former members of the 24th Division. However, Letters or other material published herein are strictly from the person furnishing same, and in no way are the Editor's, neither do items published herein express or reflect any views or thoughts of any Officer or member of the 24th Infantry Division Association.

"I am sending a pamphlet which I wrote last year entitled, "What Price For Freedom?". Next, we will observe Memorial Day. In my pamphlet I have touched upon some of the things that come to mind on such a day.

I hope another issue of the Taro Leaf will be coming out my way soon. I am looking forward to the next reunion of our 24th Division Association. My best wishes,

Yours in comradeship,

Emil M. Larson (H Co, 19th)  
706 S. Walts Ave.  
Sioux Falls, So. Dak.



# ON A VARIETY OF SUBJECTS

JOHN ROSS, Hammond, Wisconsin, has just sent the Association, thru Roscoe Claxon, a gavel which was presented to us by Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House -- Ross says, he sent it thru Roscoe because he assumed he was a member of a certain Political Party! Thanks Ross. We already have a gavel which was presented to us thru Ed Henry from Mr. Joe Martin last year.

My semi-annual letter from Maj. Gen. ROSCOE B. WOODRUFF states that he is doubtful of being able to get to Louisville as much as he would love to. He says it is a great disappointment to him since he had been planning on it. Last year Gen. Woodruff attended a reunion of his class at West Point. This year, his son, a Colonel in the Air Force attended his - the 20th. Gen W was in the Class of 1915 along with Dwight Eisenhower. His maternal grandfather was in the Class of 1887.

On the date of his writing (13 June 1961), the General noted something in his diary dated 13 June 1945:

"13 June 45, Gen. MacArthur, Gen. Kenney (C.G. Air Force, SW Pac), Gen Eichelberger (Eighth Army) and a party of about 20 staff and news men arrived on Cruiser Boise at 1100. Sibert (CG I Corps) and I met them on ship and immediately the cavalcade went to Panacan (small town up the coast of Davao Gulf) to see 19th Inf. Back here at Talomo Beach for lunch. In afternoon to Ula (inland quite a way behind Talomo) for Field Artillery shoot and to meet 162nd Inf C.O. thence Daliao to see village and 34th C.P. Had a flat, (it was changed in the fastest time I ever saw!) in order not to keep Gen Mac Arthur waiting. Returned, still in jeep saying goodbye at dusk at 1600. Gen Mac Arthur said we had come across island of Mindanao in a "skillful and efficient manner". As he left he said, "I had heard your Division was superior -- it has been confirmed by what I saw today."

Gen. Woodruff's note ended by, "Very heavy rain about bedtime". Sounds rather routine, don't you think?

Perhaps the situation will change and General Woodruff (Woody) will still be with us down in the land of Tobacco, Mint Juleps and Kentucky smoked ham. Thanks for your notes, General.

McBRYDE, Charles M - S/Sgt, 19th Hq Co - fr 1939 to 1942 is a Membership Representative for the AAA. His address is 632 Spring Lane, Sanford, N. C. He and wife Lois have 4 children - all girls - Martha Sue, Frances, Jane, and Sarah, ranging in age from 16 to 5 years.

PONCZKA, Edward - 3rd Engr - 1939 to 1944 - promises to be with us at reunion time. Home address is 2106 Euclid Ave., Boothwyn, Penn. Has a wife Ella, and a 13 year old son. He is a refrigerator mechanic.

DANIELS, COLONEL ROBERT J. - Div G-1 in P.I. - is assigned to Ft. Dix. He and his wife live in Mt. Holy, New Jersey, P.O. Box 268. They have four children. Brook 11, David 9, Jane, age 7, and Mary 4 years old.

SWAST, JOHN J. - "D" 21st Inf - lives at 2716 Terrace Road, Washington, D. C. He is a retired Major. He attended the reunion in Atlantic City and is all set for the Louisville affair. John says he can't see why anyone would ever want to miss a reunion.

John has taken colored pictures all over the world and has many colored slides of Hawaii, of Brazil and Gen. Verbeck's old command. He also has a great number of our last reunion, showing all the guys and gals have a wonderful time down there on the boardwalk. At present they are being used by the New England men. Joe Mashett has them for showing to some group out there, but Swast will have them back in time to show to you in Louisville.

While in Louisville we will tour the Stitzell-Weller Distillery, where they make Old Fitzgerald. JULIAN P. VAN WINKLE, Jr. Vice President of the Firm, was in a unit attached to the 24th Div on Leyte. He was wounded in action while fighting with us in the memorable Breakneck campaign. Bill Verbeck says that Julian was out of his tank helping him lead a charge up a hill when he was hit. He later landed in a bed next to Lt Col Urban Throm (24 Med) in the 1st Field Hospital, and later, along with Red Newman, they were evacuated to New Guinea. Unless he has to be out of the city on business, Van Winkle will be with us at the Brown in Louisville. The tour thru the distillery promises to be a very interesting one.

To those of you who have never attended a reunion, we have a solemn Memorial Service on Saturday night each year. During this Service we pay tribute to those gallant men we left behind. This is a part of the reunion program you will always remember. A part of the Chaplains part follows for you to think about:

"It now becomes our solemn duty and privilege to devote a small part of our time to the honorable memory of our comrades in arms whom, above all, we would like to have here in our midst today... heroes who laid down their lives for their Country..... a friendship which is engendered among those who fight together on a field of battle, risking their lives, not only for the cause for which they fight, but also for one another, is different from every other kind of friendship, different from the ties of flesh, and blood, different from the ties of business association, different from the ties of social acquaintance. Once cemented, this military and combat friendship lasts forever. Our gathering here today is proof of that -- it lasts even beyond the grave....."

Father Chris Berlo prepared the complete Memorial Service in 1951 and it has been used each year.

It seems that in the following letter from Red Newman to Ed there is something worthwhile thinking about.

I just received a very long letter from General Newman, under date of April 11th. Again, he mentions coming to Louisville. He has some thoughts to express to us at the convention about establishing some sort of museum for mementos of the 24th Division. He points out, quite correctly, that none of us are eternal and the time to collect these items is at this time. Our only problem is just where to put them. Of course, he does not contemplate building a museum! His thoughts that he threw out are as follows:

"To establish a repository of 24th Division memorabilia at a place that has some meaning, and which will add something to the local prestige and interest. Example: Some major National Guard unit who had a man serve with distinction in our Division might be interested in maintaining the museum as a part of a memorial to their local base."

"Or we might decide to establish a sort of 'Home Base' for the Association in a city where we have a large and continuing Chapter --- such as Chicago or New York. They might know of a local veterans organization or armory or the like where there was an interest in establishing a museum to which memos would be welcome, and which members of the Association could see very so often when a reunion was held in that area."

"Or maybe the best idea is to just agree that we will all send our memos for final disposition to Div. Hqs. --- and let it be up to them as to what disposition should be made of them..... of course in all of this there would be no pressure on any one to part with anything. It would be for those who might not know just what they would eventually want to do with these things that mean so much to us, and are physical mementos of those war time days that are now a part of our national history."

"I have no concrete recommendation to make---this is just by way of raising the question of whether or not there is a point here worth thinking about."

Along the line of Armories, here is something else. A couple of years ago, the 24th Division Association was in charge of the naming and dedication ceremonies for a new \$350,000 armory here in Denville. The new building was named after Capt. ROBERT B. CHAPMAN OF THE CHICKS, KIA on Mindanao. We were told by Army Officials present at the ceremony that this was the first time in history that a Division Assn. or any other Unit Assn. had had complete charge of such a program. More of this could be done. All members have to do is to watch for such armory buildings being constructed in their area find the names of 24th men in the area, have records of them checked, and through the Assn. submit the name or names to the proper authorities thru channels. Establishing such memorials is one of our purposes outlined in our Constitution.

There is a new Army Reserve Armory to be built in the Champaign-Urbana Illinois area. If anyone has the name of any former 24th man in that area (Champaign County, Ill) please send it to the Secretary of the Association, and we can probably run down his record and get enough information to enable us to submit a name of a 24th Division man, and again have another armory carrying that name -- another memorial to those whose blood wrote the history of our great Division.

THROM, URBAN L. - Departed for a post in Georgia on 3 July 61, and we do not have his mailing address at this time. All correspondence regarding the Convention rather than to the Officers, may be sent to either Roscoe Claxon, Stamping Ground, or Lt. Col. J. B. JONES, 1442-A Fifth Ave., Ft. Knox, Ky. Jones is carrying on for Throm. Throm will try to get to reunion early, however.

## HOLLANDIA.... YESTERDAY..... and TODAY



Hollandia, New Guinea, April 1944



1960 - Pulling a rake-barrow, with tractor furnished by Western World Hollandia Experimental Station.



1944 - Part of 21st Inf. Regt. - Hollandia.



Today - a wing of one of the Govt. schools prior to completion. The bldg. was completed in 1953.

In and near Hollandia today one will also find Churches, Hospitals, greenhouses, manual training schools, engineering training centers, and small plants. The cultural and social progress of any people depends upon its physical well-being. New Guinea seems to be progressing.





TALKING OVER old times, Japanese General Ichiji Sugita, left, chief of staff for ground self-defense for Japan and Maj. Gen. A. S. Newman, U.S. Army (retired) of Longboat Key chat on the grounds of the Lido Biltmore Club.

# East Meets West In Sarasota

By FORREST CLARK  
NEWS Staff Writer

International goodwill and peace time military cooperation were cemented in Sarasota this weekend by Gen. Ichiji Sugita, the Chief of Staff of the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force, in the midst of a United States tour of military installations.

General Sugita came to Sarasota to take a rest break for relaxation on his tightly scheduled tour of U.S. installations.

He stayed at the Lido Biltmore Club over the weekend and visited Major Gen. A. S. Newman of Longboat Key, U.S. Army (retired) a long time friend.

They have kept in touch by mail and through mutual friends, but until Gen. Sugita arrived in Sarasota this weekend they had not seen each other

in more than 20 years.

The Japanese general and his party spent Sunday night at the Lido Biltmore Club and were entertained at cocktails and dinner Sunday afternoon and evening by Gen. and Mrs. Newman at their Longboat Key home, 612 Juan Anasco Dr. Approximately 25 friends of the Newmans attended the cocktail party to honor the Japanese visitor and his party.

Gen. Sugita was briefed by the Pentagon upon his arrival in the U.S. and now is continuing his tour of U.S. military installations. His stop-over in Sarasota was primarily to renew old friendship with Maj. Gen. Newman.

They met 25 years ago when Gen. Sugita, then a captain, spent six months as an observer

with the American Army at Plattsburg Barracks, N.Y. Gen. Newman, also then a captain, commanded the company to which Gen. Sugita was attached.

Traveling with the group of Japanese staff officers is Lt. Col. Robert E. Holland, U.S. Army, who is the Department of Army representative for the tour.

Gen. Sugita is visiting America as part of a continuous program of peace time exchange of visits of key military officers of friendly nations.

The Japanese officer is promoting coordination between military forces in their training and planning for possible emergency.

He is accompanied by two Japanese staff officers, Col. Masao Horie and Lt. Col. Kiyoshi Niya.

## New ADDRESSES

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Frank Powell, Wm. Kentucky  
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Coy Teller, Tetentown, West Virginia  
Robert Jersich, 9227 South Bishop Street, Chicago, Illinois  
Ernest Lendin, 227 Clark Street, Westville, Illinois  
Ozell Hermal, 14th Ave. Hooper, APC 1003 - he must be out of there.  
William Neek, Route 3, Irwin, Pennsylvania  
Donald Boyles, Middle Island, New York  
Nick Bender, 308 Second Avenue N., Mankato, North Dakota  
David George, 207 Spring Street, Canton, Pa., Pennsylvania  
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Eugene Hampton, Box 715, Flagstaff, Arizona  
Evelyn Clark, Ascotway Star Route, Windsor, Vermont  
Mrs. Irene Elmore, Box 39, Big Fork, Montana  
(Elmore was killed in an auto accident several years ago)  
Mrs. George Parsons, 1140 Frame Street, Charleston, West Virginia  
(Parsons died of illness soon after his discharge)  
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